



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 020600-283

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of ) **Mail Stop AF**  
Günter SCHMIDT *et al.* )  
Application No.: 09/462,408 ) Group Art Unit: 1634  
Filed: April 10, 2000 ) Examiner: Betty J. Forman  
For: CHARACTERISING NUCLEIC ) Confirmation No.: 5060  
ACIDS )  
ACIDS )

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in complete and timely response to the *final* Office Action mailed August 8, 2003 (Paper No. 19) (November 8 and 9, 2003 were a Saturday and Sunday, respectively).

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: